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OCT 15 2001
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kyle M. Hanson, Robert A. Weaver, Jerry Simchuk and
Raymon F. Thompson

Application No. : 09/882,309 Confirmation No.: 7064

Filed : June 14, 2001

For : DIFFUSER WITH A SPIRAL OPENING PATTERN FOR
ELECTROPLATING REACTOR VESSEL

Art Unit : 1741

Docket No. : 291958123US1

(Client Ref. No. P99-0023US2)

Date : October 12, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Commissioner:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please add a new section directly before the "TECHNICAL FIELD" as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/351,864 filed on July 12, 1999, and issued on July 3, 2001 as U.S. Patent No. 6,254,742.